

direction from the pipeline contractor or subcontractor (or such person's agent), deliberately causes a violation of any requirement relating to pipeline safety under this chapter or any other law of the United States.

“(e) **CONTRACTOR DEFINED.**—In this section, the term ‘contractor’ means a company that performs safety-sensitive functions by contract for a pipeline.”.

(b) **CIVIL PENALTY.**—Section 60122(a) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(3) A person violating section 60129, or an order issued thereunder, is liable to the Government for a civil penalty of not more than \$1,000 for each violation. The penalties provided by paragraph (1) do not apply to a violation of section 60129 or an order issued thereunder.”.

(c) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—The chapter analysis for chapter 601 is amended by adding at the end the following:

“60129. Protection of employees providing pipeline safety information.”.

SEC. 16. STATE PIPELINE SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEES.

Within 90 days after receiving recommendations for improvements to pipeline safety from an advisory committee appointed by the Governor of any State, the Secretary of Transportation shall respond in writing to the committee setting forth what action, if any, the Secretary will take on those recommendations and the Secretary's reasons for acting or not acting upon any of the recommendations.

SEC. 17. FINES AND PENALTIES.

The Inspector General of the Department of Transportation shall conduct an analysis of the Department's assessment of fines and penalties on gas transmission and hazardous liquid pipelines, including the cost of corrective actions required by the Department in lieu of fines, and, no later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, shall provide a report to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on any findings and recommendations for actions by the Secretary or Congress to ensure the fines assessed are an effective deterrent for reducing safety risks.

SEC. 18. STUDY OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY.

The Secretary of Transportation is authorized to conduct a study on how best to preserve environmental resources in conjunction with maintaining pipeline rights-of-way. The study shall recognize pipeline operators' regulatory obligations to maintain rights-of-way and to protect public safety.

COMMENDING GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY EAGLES FOOTBALL TEAM

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of S. Res. 14, introduced earlier today by Senators CLELAND and MILLER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 14) commending the Georgia Southern University Eagles football team for winning the 2000 NCAA Division I-AA football championship.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. THOMAS. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and the preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, any statements relating to the resolution shall be placed in the appropriate place as if read, with the above occurring with no intervening action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 14) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under “Senate Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2001

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 24. I further ask consent that on Wednesday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then begin a period of morning business until 11 a.m. with Senators speaking for up to 10 minutes each, with the following exceptions: Senator DURBIN or his designee, 10 o'clock to 10:30; Senator MURKOWSKI,

10:30 to 10:50; Senator COLLINS, 10:50 to 11 o'clock.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. THOMAS. Further, I ask consent at 11 a.m. the Senate resume consideration of the Thompson nomination and Senators GRASSLEY, BAUCUS, and KENNEDY be in control of 10 minutes each prior to the vote on the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. THOMAS. For the information of all Senators, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 11 a.m. tomorrow. Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the Thompson nomination for approximately 30 minutes. A vote has been scheduled to occur on the nomination at 11:30 by previous consent. Senators should be aware that the Senate may also consider other nominations during tomorrow's session of the Senate.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. THOMAS. If there be no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:26 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, January 24, 2001, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate January 23, 2001:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

MITCHELL E. DANIELS, JR., OF INDIANA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

ANTHONY JOSEPH PRINCIPI, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

MELQUIADES RAFAEL MARTINEZ, OF FLORIDA, TO BE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.